

REMARKS

The Applicant has carefully considered the outstanding Office Action mailed May 16, 2006 and the Examiner's position enunciated therein. In this regard, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's position based upon the following arguments.

Nelson, the principal and single prior art reference upon which the Examiner has relied, is directed to two designs for a tool holder. In the first embodiment (Figures 1-4), an elongated bracket 30 and a series of horizontal projecting article support members 32 are shown. The Examiner has referred to the parts 32 as "arcuate rebates". However, this is clearly not the case. The article supporting members 32 are *horizontal supports* and not arcuate rebates.

The second embodiment of Nelson (Figures 5-7) include circular apertures, but these members are the only support formations that this embodiment includes.

An essential feature of Claim 1 of Nelson is that there are a "plurality of spaced tool support formations of a plurality of configurations". Neither of the Nelson tool holders includes tool support formations of a plurality of configurations. In particular, in the first embodiment, all the formations 32 are horizontal bars and, in the second embodiment, all of the formations 32a are circular apertures.

Claim 1 of the present invention requires that "some of the spaced tool formations are in the form of arcuate rebates formed in the outer periphery of the plate".

Neither of the Nelson embodiments has arcuate rebates formed in the periphery of a plate.

The second embodiment of Nelson has support formations in the form of circular apertures, but these are the only support formations that it includes.

Providing support formations of different configurations enables the storage unit of the present invention to be used for the storage of different kinds of tools, and forming arcuate rebates in the periphery of the plate is a very simple and effective way of providing some of the support formations.

The novel features of the present invention are clearly set out in Claim 1 and are neither disclosed nor suggested by Nelson. Therefore, the Applicant believes that Claim 1 is distinguishable from Nelson and should be allowable.

Claims 2-5 of the present invention are dependent upon Claim 1 and add novel combinations thereto. For this reason, as well as the reasons discussed above, Applicant believes that Claims 2-5 are also in condition for allowance.

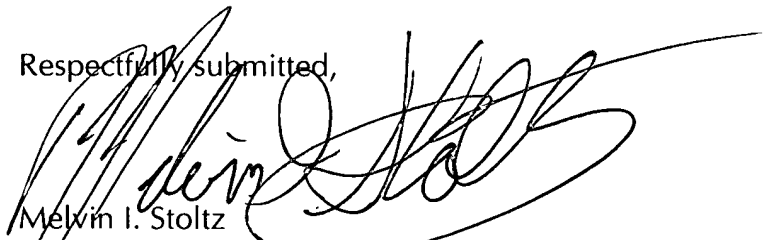
Applicant has added new Claim 6 which is similar to Claim 1 except that it refers to the outer edges of the plate rather than the outer periphery of the plate. Claim 6 also includes the feature that some of the arcuate rebates face towards the back plate and some of the arcuate rebates face away from the back plate.

This arrangement of the arcuate rebates enables a substantial number of tools to be supported, i.e., many more than is possible with the Nelson tool holder. Nelson contains no suggestion that there should be rearwardly facing tool support formations

as well as forwardly facing tool support formations. Therefore, Applicant believes Claim 6 is also in condition for allowance.

Based upon the foregoing amendment, the Applicant believes that Claims 1-6 have been distinguished from the Nelson prior art reference and are all in condition for allowance. An early notice of allowability is earnestly solicited. If any questions remain which may be resolved by a telephone interview, Applicant's undersigned Attorney would gladly discuss such issues with the Examiner at the Examiner's convenience. For this purpose, Applicant's undersigned Attorney has provided his telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Melvin I. Stoltz, is written over the typed name and registration number.

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